



Friday, December 11, 2015

Weekly Class News

From the third grade class of Ms. Revelli

Teacher's Note:

The holidays are definitely in full swing! Jill Lindenbaum and Sarah Cahn came to class on Wednesday and celebrated Hanukkah with the everyone, making beautiful spinning tops, learning the history of Hanukkah, as well as playing a few rounds of dreidel. The kids each enjoyed a sweet jelly donut and some chocolate gelt. **Science Wizard:** Today, Julia taught us all about water tension and air pressure and how that combination creates suction. She did a fabulous job teaching the class about this concept, and didn't need to look at her notes once! **Book Buzz:** We also had a few kids share their book buzzes today, and they were very well done! We learned about volcanoes, Pompeii, and dog sled racing in Alaska. All presenters were very knowledgeable about their subject matter, and even though they "claimed" to be really nervous, they got up there like pros! Can't wait to see the rest of the presentations! **Holiday Giving Program:** We have a box in our room and have collected a few items. Feel free to send them with your 3rd grader as soon as you get them. Thanks so much for being as excited about this project as we are! **AFTER SCHOOL VIOLIN CLASSES:** I will be teaching an after school violin class to those who may be interested for grades 3-5 starting in the January session! I am quite excited about this! If you are interested, make sure to contact whomever is in charge of after school enrichment, and if you have any questions, you can always ask me! **Classroom Donations:** We would always welcome Clorox or Lysol wipes to help keep germs to a minimum.

This Week's Focus and Standards:




Reading and Writing: Nonfiction reading, boxes and bullets, and becoming an "Active Reader." Completing all written assignments up until this point.

Math: Applying subtraction strategies to solve more challenging problems as well as learning a few new ones! **STUDY**

MULTIPLICATION FACTS!!!

Social Studies/Science: Taking a look at "The First Californian's." Reading our chapter on Energy & Matter

UPCOMING!!! Winter Music Presentation Friday Dec. 18th 10:20-11:30

M	Tu	W	Th	Fr
Dec. 14  Book Buzz Presentation	Dec. 15 Book Buzz Presentations	Dec. 16 Book Buzz Presentations	Dec. 17 Book Buzz Presentations	Dec. 18 Winter Music Presentation 10:20-11:30 Ava Science Wizard
Dec. 21 _____	Dec. 22 _____	Dec. 23 Happy Break!!	Dec. 24 _____	Dec. 25 
Dec. 28 _____	Dec. 29 _____	Dec. 30 _____	Dec. 31 _____	Jan. 1 
Jan. 4	Jan. 5	Jan. 6	Jan. 7	Jan. 8 Gianluca's Science Wizard
Jan. 11	Jan. 12	Jan. 13	Jan. 14	Jan. 15 Lizzy's Science Wizard Spelling Test

Highlights

We continued **Writer's Workshop** wrapping up many of our writing assignments that we had hanging over our heads in order to start the new 2016 year with a clean slate, ready to take on more projects! For **Reader's Workshop**, we had some very helpful lessons on how to give a presentation, which just so happened to come at a great time, especially for our up coming book buzz presentations! We had a great discussion as to how we have become little factories, not factories that make candy or machines, but instead, producing a lot of knowledge on all the great things they have been learning through reading nonfiction. We talked about how to talk from your notes, and not be glued to your cards when giving presentations, and how to use pictures and talk with your hands, making the presentation no different than from how they would speak in general. They seemed to really enjoy this, and I can't wait to see how they do with it starting today! Very cool! In **Math**, third graders wrapped up their unit on addition and subtraction of larger numbers by officially being taught the standard algorithm, the "Old Way" of solving problems! They were quite thrilled, and really enjoyed it. We had some great discussion, however, on looking more deeply into all the strategies that we learned, whether or not it was constant differences, give and take, or solving on a number line, and spent a few minutes on a lesson called "Thinking before we Add and Subtract." Most of them have come to the realization that many of the tricks we have been learning are actually easier and more clear than the standard algorithm. Not worrying about having to borrow or regroup is huge. As mathematicians, it is important to really look at the numbers you are working with and make the best judgment call for what approach needed to solve different problems. It was quite fun! In number corner, we are looking at fractions, more specifically equivalent fractions. They are continuing to learn lots of fun things every single day! **CONTINUE having your 3rd graders commit their facts to memory!**